

535,621

Rec'd PCTO 20 MAY 2005

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
10 June 2004 (10.06.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/049721 A1**

(31) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **H04N 7/26**

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/GB2003/005028

(22) International Filing Date:  
18 November 2003 (18.11.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
0227570.9 26 November 2002 (26.11.2002) GB

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY** [GB/GB]; 81 NEWGATE STREET, LONDON EC1A 7AJ (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **LI, Yongmin** [CN/GB]; 167 Cavendish Street, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 8BG (GB). **XU, Li-Qun** [GB/GB]; 34 Dodson Vale,

Kesgrave, Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 2GT (GB). **MORRISON, David, Geoffrey** [GB/GB]; 10 Tylers Green, Trimley, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 0XF (GB). **NIGHTINGALE, Charles** [GB/GB]; 39 Quilter Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 7JL (GB). **MORPHETT, Jason** [GB/GB]; Valley View, 41 Holton Road, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8HG (GB).

(74) Agent: **WALLIN, Nicholas, James**; BT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT, HOLBORN CENTRE, 8TH FLOOR, 120 HOLBORN, LONDON EC1A 7AJ (GB).

(81) Designated States (national): CA, US.

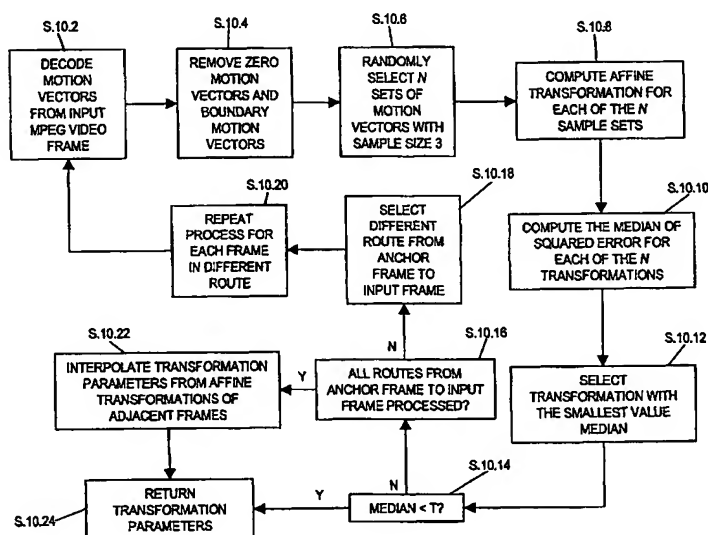
(84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ESTIMATING GLOBAL MOTION IN VIDEO SEQUENCES



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to estimating the global motion between frames of a motion-compensated inter-frame encoded video sequence, directly from the motion vectors encoded within the frames. For any particular frame, the motion vectors are first decoded, and a finite number of sets of vectors are selected. An affine or other geometrical transform is then used to generate a motion estimation for each set, and then the least median squared error present in each motion estimation is calculated for each estimation. The motion estimation with the smallest least median squared error is then selected as being representative of the global motion in the image of the frame. A panoramic image generating method and system which makes use of the global motion estimations thus obtained is also described

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